

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS STATE 006463

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, APER, UK

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TO UK, ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON

1. FOLLOWING ARE TEXTS OF PRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF NOMINATION OF AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE RICHARDSON DATED 9 JANUARY AND A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS BY THE AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE DISTRIBUTED AT THE NOON BRIEFING ON JANUARY 10.

2. THE WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE IT IS WITH SPECIAL PLEASURE THAT I ANNOUNCE TODAY MY INTENTION TO NOMINATE ELLIOT LEE RICHARDSON OF MASSACHUSETTS AS AMBASSADOR TO GREAT BRITAIN.

I HAVE KNOWN AND WORKED WITH ELLIOT RICHARDSON SINCE HE FIRST JOINED THE EISENHOWER ADMINISTRATION AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO HEW. SINCE THAT TIME, HIS RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE, BOTH IN MASSACHUSETTS AND SUCCESSIVELY AS UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, SECRETARY OF HEW, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, AND AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, HAS BEEN ONE OF EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT. I HAVE THE HIGHEST REGARD FOR HIM, FOR HIS INTELLIGENCE AND FOR HIS TOTAL COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SERVICE.

ELLIOT RICHARDSON'S RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE IS TRULY  
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REMARKABLE. IN WORLD WAR II, HE ENLISTED IN THE UNITED

STATES ARMY AND SERVED IN THE EUROPEAN THEATER; HE LANDED WITH THE 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION ON D-DAY IN NORMANDY -- AND

WAS AWARDED THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL FOR HEROIC SERVICE AND THE PURPLE HEART WITH OAK LEAF CLUSTER. UPON GRADUATION FROM HARVARD LAW SCHOOL IN 1947, WHERE HE WAS PRESIDENT OF THE LAW REVIEW, HE SERVED AS LAW CLERK FIRST TO JUDGE LEARNED HAND AND THEN TO SUPREME COURT JUSTICE FELIX FRANKFURTER. IN 1953 AND 1954, HE SERVED AS LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, SENATOR LEVERETT SALTONSTALL. BY APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT EISENHOWER, HE SERVED AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND ACTING SECRETARY OF HEW IN THE PERIOD 1957 TO 1959. FROM 1959 TO 1961, HE SERVED AS UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR MASSACHUSETTS AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES. IN 1964, HE WAS ELECTED LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS; AND IN 1966, HE WAS ELECTED MASSACHUSETTS ATTORNEY GENERAL FROM WHICH POSITION HE CAME TO WASHINGTON IN 1969 TO SERVE IN FOUR CABINET DEPARTMENTS.

THE UNITED KINGDOM IS AN OLD ALLY TO WHOM THE UNITED STATES IS BOUND BY PROFOUNDLY INTIMATE TIES OF HISORY AND STRATEGIC INTEREST. IT HAS THEREFORE BEEN OUR PRACTICE TO CONSULT WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM ON A BROAD RANGE OF NEGOTIATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS AFFECTING OUR RELATIONS WITH EACH OTHER AS WELL AS WITH THE WESTERN ALLIANCE. AS OUR AMBASSADOR TO THE COURT OF ST. JAMES, ELLIOT RICHARDSON WILL CONTINUE THIS PRACTICE. BOTH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND I SHALL SEEK HIS WISE COUNSEL ON THESE AND OTHER SUBJECTS. I WARMLY WELCOME ELLIOT RICHARDSON BACK INTO THE SERVICE OF OUR COUNTRY AND AM CONFIDENT THAT HE WILL REPRESENT AMERICA WITH THE HIGHEST DISTINCTION. UNQUOTE

3. STATEMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PRESS BY HONORABLE ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE I AM DEEPLY HONORED BY THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION TO NOMINATE ME AS AMBASSADOR TO GREAT BRITAIN AND BY HIS KIND EXPRESSION OF CONFIDENCE IN ME. IF CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE, I SHALL LOOK FORWARD UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH GREAT PLEASURE AND INTEREST TO THE CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY OF CONTRIBUTING TO THE RESOLUTION OF VERY SERIOUS PROBLEMS NOW FACING THE UNITED STATES, GREAT BRITAIN AND THE WEST.

THROUGH THE COURTESY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, I AM TODAY MAKING MYSELF AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS. THIS IS THE ONLY CONVENIENT AND FAIR MEANS FOR ME TO

RESPOND AT THIS TIME TO THE MANY REQUESTS FOR INTERVIEWS  
WHICH I HAVE RECEIVED. I TRUST YOU WILL APPRECIATE THAT,

AS A MATTER OF PROPRIETY, I MUST RESERVE ANY COMMENT CONCERNING  
SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES OF FOREIGN POLICY UNTIL THE SENATE FOREIGN  
RELATIONS COMMITTEE HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER MY  
NOMINATION. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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